

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An exposure apparatus having an exposure mode that transfers a pattern on a reticle onto an object, and a 5 standby mode that waits for exposure includes an optical system for introducing the exposure light to the object in the exposure mode, and a mechanism for allowing the exposure light to enter the reticle and/or the optical system in the standby mode, and for 10 preventing the exposure light from entering the object in the standby mode.